

Church of God

March 12, 1956

Evangel



A typical L.W.B. meeting
See page 4

Dedicated to the

Ladies' Willing Workers' Band

"...but what can ladies do in a church?"

Four ladies give their reply.



the Readers' response

To the Editor:

I have been a subscriber to the *Evangel* for twenty-two years and feel that the issue of January 7 is one of the best ever published. I have marked this as a record for 1956. The Pioneer Issue (January 28) is also a good record because it contains the names and addresses of our older ministers. I think a book should be made up at the end of this year containing each issue of 1956. This would be a book we all would want.

O. B. Pressley
Springfield, Missouri

To the Editor:

After reading the January 28 issue of the *Evangel* I am persuaded that it is one of the finest periodicals of the modern-day press. I am 72 years old and have pioneered and preached this wonderful gospel for 41 years. I still love the Lord and I love the lives of those that have been pioneers in His cause. I know what it means.

H. O. Herring
Red Springs, North Carolina

To the Editor:

After reading several *Evangel*s today (that is the way we receive them—a month's supply at a time) I felt that I wanted to write you a word of appreciation. We, and the whole ministerial body in Nigeria, enjoy the *Evangel* very much. The December 21 and January 7 issues are superb. It is wonderful how God is blessing in every department of the Church of God. We also have a vision of great things for Nigeria for 1956.

T. D. Mooneyham, Overseer
Nigeria

To the Editor:

I have been reading my *Evangel*s and do enjoy hearing from so many of the soldiers of the cross. I am the wife of R. L. Duke who traveled the land over to see souls saved; and, truly, we did see many hearts turn from sin and be sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost. Many times, we stayed in hard places and in brush arbors. We fasted and prayed, and ate what we

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COVER PICTURE

Introducing the special "L.W.W.B. Issue" is the picture of the L.W.W.B. in Athens, Tennessee. Speaking to the ladies' meeting is the President, Mrs. Clifford Bridges, wife of the local pastor. Persons in the picture are, left to right: Mrs. Clifford Bridges, Mrs. Lon Womac, Mrs. Cecil Coleman, Mrs. Tom Lewis, Mrs. Sam Hughes, Mrs. Willis Coleman, Mrs. Elmer Breedwell, Mrs. Bill Hatcher, Mrs. Will Sherlin, Mrs. Fred Walker (Vice-President), Mrs. W. M. Hatcher, Mrs. Berkett Williams (Secretary and Treasurer).



Coming Next Week

"KNOW - YOUR - CHURCH ISSUE"

An editorial on "What Is the Church of God" and discussions of various phases of Church of God activity.

could get. When the way was dark and times hard, we would consider the task and say, "We are doing this for the Lord," and march on. Five years ago God saw fit to call R. L. home to be with Him.

Minnie Duke
Clanton, Alabama

To the Editor:

I feel that I must write and tell you how much I like the cover and the contents of your "Pioneer Issue" of January 28. The whole issue has been well conceived. The cover has really moved me with its sweet and profound simplicity and loyalty to historical fact. It is well drawn. The articles are well chosen, and well written. I am so glad you have given space for some individual tributes to the "Trail Blazers." The individual touch means a lot to all of us as individuals. And that is what we all are. We must always guard against nostalgia and sentimentalism, but a little of it does us good. We are looking forward, not backward, but we are also exhorted to "remember" past grace.

Reverend Donald Gee
Editor, Pentecost
London, England

To the Editor:

The recent anniversary issues of the *Evangel* are the best yet. I have been reading each one with interest and appreciation. Such issues will do more to inspire the ministers and readers throughout the country to greater effort than we have ever put forth in the past. We pray that the *Evangel* will, in the near future, reach the goal that has been set for it. You may be sure that we will do everything within our power to accomplish this purpose in this area.

Ralph E. Williams
Overseer of California
Fresno, California

To the Editor:

I like the plan for the *Evangel* in 1956. It makes each issue a special one, and I look forward to receiving it. Especially, I enjoyed the editorial on "The Chattanooga Situation." When you are out in the western section of the country and miles separate you from the fellowship of the brethren, you appreciate your *Evangel*. It's just like getting a long letter from home.

A. G. Thompson
Overseer of Colorado
Grand Junction, Colorado

A guest editorial

by a leader in the

founding of the L.W.W.B.

The Ladies Had **A Will To Work**

By Mrs. S. J. Wood



I TRULY I CAN SAY with David, "Blessed be the Lord, because he hath heard the voice of my supplications. The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him," Psalm 28:6, 7.

Twenty-seven years ago, in a small Texas oil-field town, Electra, where my husband was pastor, the church was laboring under severe financial circumstances. Many of the members were unemployed, so there was not enough money to pay our bills, and we had to use a borrowed piano.

God began to deal with my heart as we fasted and prayed to get the mind of God. We felt very much impressed to organize our ladies; this plan met their hearty approval. On November 16, 1929, we organized a band of sixteen ladies to work for the church. So, it was during the depression that the "Ladies' Willing Workers' Band" was born, and, as Nehemiah of old, we had a mind to work.

Immediately, the Devil, too, began to work. He never bothers an inactive church, for it is already going his way, but he is after the church that is on fire for God and doing things. Well, the Devil soon sent a "Sandballat" and his friends to hinder us and stop our work, if possible. He said to us, "It is not Biblical for you women to work to supply the needs of the church. Just pray and God will do the rest."

Do you know what we told our Sandballat? Just what Nehemiah said: "We are on the wall and can not come down." We were on the job sometimes until four o'clock in the morning.

The Devil is a liar, and sometimes we catch him in one. The man who criticized us for working in the church, actually, was not opposed to women working at all. He could sit in an easy chair and let his wife get the wood, carry the water, take care of the children and do all the work. It was all right for her to work as long as she was waiting on him.

Well, we kept right on working, and God rewarded us with a great revival in which 73 were filled with the Holy Ghost. You just can not keep people from church when the power of God is falling and people

are being born again. There is nothing like obeying God. The ladies can certainly help bring this about.

We have come a long way in 27 years. The L.W.W.B. began "at scratch," and look at us now—millionaires! We too can say, "Behold, what God hath wrought!" No wonder Jesus said in Mark 14:6, 9, "And Jesus said, Let her alone; why trouble ye her? she hath wrought a good work on me . . . Verily I say unto you, Where-soever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her."

My father was a farmer whose principal crop was cotton. This meant hard work and long hours for us children. Late in the afternoon when we became tired and slowed down a bit, and father noticed this, he would give us the needed change and rest by telling us stories of his boyhood days. He told us how they had what was called a "house raising." They would bring the logs out of the forest and put them on the site where they were to raise the house, or, actually, to construct it. The men of the community would gather to give several days of labor on the "raising" of the house. They would lay log upon log, but, when the walls became about five feet high, the task became much more difficult. Two men would hold the log at the ends and swing it up to the top. As they did this they would say, "*He—oh—he, and up she goes!*"

It is a little different today, and our building is a spiritual house. And now the chant has become, "*She—oh—she, and up she goes!*"

The Sphere of a Woman

They talk about a woman's sphere

As though it had a limit.

There's not a place in earth or heaven,

There's not a task to mankind given;

There's not a blessing or a woe,

There's not a whispered "yes" or "no";

There's not a life or death or birth

That has a feather's weight of worth

Without a woman in it.



Front view of parsonage in Athens, Tenn.



Supper being served by L.W.W.B.

The "Evangel" Features a Typical Ladies' Willing Workers' Band

ATHENS, TENNESSEE

The L.W.W.B. in Athens, Tennessee, is typical of the bands found in most local churches. This band has approximately 25 members who meet once a month. At the present time, their work consists of sponsoring suppers in their kitchen and dining room adjacent to the church. In this way and with other projects, they have been able to raise more than \$60 a month. One of their most recent projects was to furnish and decorate the parsonage. At the present time they are making the monthly payments on the parsonage and on a new automatic washer. The picture on the cover shows the band meeting in the parlor of the parsonage. The pictures on this page give an idea of the good work that is being done. The "Evangel" congratulates the Athens L.W.W.B. and all the bands it represents.

(For other L.W.W.B. reports, see pages 11, 12, and 13.)



Bedroom furnished by L.W.W.B.



Living room and dining room with furnishings



The Willing Workers

By Mrs. F. W. Goff

"I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea. That ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also," Romans 16:1-2.

GODLY WOMEN ARE, and always will be, a blessing in this world. Many things have been written about a woman's place. In God's word we find examples of Godly women in all walks of life. In national affairs Deborah stands out as a woman used of God to direct her country. Esther was another notable woman who played an important role in national affairs. Because she was a Godly woman, as well as the queen, she was able to save her people from destruction.

Miriam, the sister of Moses, was a prophetess—also Huldah, Anna and the daughters of Phillip.

Dorcas could be called a social worker. She found favor in the eyes of her community and was held in high repute.

In his letters Paul often speaks of faithful women of the Church. Our Scripture calls to our attention Phebe, whom Paul said was a servant of the Church. One who had assisted him and many others also. And this was his admonition, "Receive her and also assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you." This is a stirring exhortation and is all the more pertinent today.

We have many honorable women, in our midst, serving in different capacities. Some are outstanding evangelists, winning many souls to Christ. Others are teachers, filling their parts well. But the majority fall in the category Paul speaks of here, servants in the Church, ever ready to yield to the humblest of tasks—giving of their time and talents freely to serve the Church. Ecclesiastes 9:10 says, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." This they have done. Some are doing personal work. Some go out and gather clothing to send to those less fortunate than we. Others sew with their hands, quilt, embroider or crochet. Bake sales are carried on. Suppers are cooked and sold. All this, that they may have their bit to help in the Church.

Our ladies have earned well over a million dollars in the last two years. Think how many hearts have been warmed by this; how many parsonages furnished; and how many other needy projects helped. Can we do less than receive them or assist them in "whatsoever business they have need of?" I say, "Nay." Let us stand behind our ladies, encourage them, pray for them, assist them, and I am sure they will continue to be, as they have always been, a blessing to our Church.

THE LADIES AID

We've put a fine addition on the good old church at home.

It's just the latest fashion with a gallery and a dome. It seats a thousand people. . . finest church in all the town;

And when 'twas dedicated . . . why we planked five thousand down!

That is, we paid three thousand—every Deacon did his best—

And the Ladies Aid Society—it promised all the rest. We've got an organ in the church—the finest in the land. It's got a thousand pipes or more; its melody is grand! And when we sit in cushioned pews and hear the master play,

It carries us to realms of bliss unnumbered miles away. It cost a cool three thousand and it stood the hardest test.

We'll pay a thousand on it; the Ladies Aid—the rest. They'll give a hundred dinners; make donuts too, if you please.

They'll bake a thousand angel cakes, and tons of cream they'll freeze.

They'll beg and scrape and toil and sweat for seven years or more,

And then they'll start all o'er again for a carpet on the floor.

No, it isn't just like diggin' out the money from your vest. When the Ladies Aid gets busy and says, "We'll pay the rest."

Of course we're proud of our big church from the pulpit to the spire.

It is the darling of our eyes, the crown of our desire. But when I see the mothers work to raise the cash that lacks,

I somehow feel the church is built on tired women's backs. Sometimes I can't help thinking, when we reach the regions blest

The men will get the toil and sweat—the Ladies Aid, the rest!

Compliments of Jack Holden . . . WLS

The President's Message

By Mrs. Zeno C. Tharp
National President of the
Ladies' Willing Workers' Band

I WOULD LIKE TO START this little message with a testimony of the wonderful blessings the Lord has given me:



He saved me when I was just a young girl; later, He sanctified and gave me the Holy Ghost—at the age of fifteen years. I joined the Church of God soon after and have been a member ever since. I am glad, too, for His wonderful healing power. He has healed me many times when I have suffered, and it seemed I could not stand it any longer. God has always come to my rescue. I can never praise Him enough for His many blessings. I am glad that I had Christian parents who taught me the right way to live and that I accepted the Lord when I was young. Sometimes, it is hard to get young people to accept the Lord; they think it is a hard life to live. If they could be made to realize it, it is the best life to live.

I am glad someone saw the need of something for the ladies to do in the Church and organized the Ladies' Willing Workers' Band. It has been a blessing to them as well as to the Church; any church without a Willing Workers' Band is missing a lot.

When I read Brother Cross's article in the "Pioneer Issue" of the *Evangel* about how he had to gather old discarded furniture to furnish a parsonage, my mind went to the Ladies' Willing Workers. They have helped to change this, and they work hard to see that the pastor and his family have a place to live and nice furniture with which to furnish it.

When we think of what the Ladies' Willing Workers have meant to the Church, of the thousands of dollars, yes, millions they have earned for the Church besides the other ways they have been a blessing, we cannot help but say, "Thank the Lord for the Willing Workers."

Let me encourage you to stay true and faithful to God and His Church. Never fail to work for Him; remember the prize is to those who hold out to the end of the race—not to the ones who start and run for awhile, let the enemy overcome them, and then give up when the prize may be just around the corner. If you hold on a little longer and do the things God would have you to do, you will have all eternity in which to be glad that you did.

My prayer is, "May the Lord richly bless each of you."



*The EVANGEL pays tribute to the hand-
maidens of the Lord who are busily engaged
implementing the gospel with their labors,
bringing inspiration to the cheerless, welding
our bonds of fellowship, and strengthening
our Christian homes.*

“—but what can a

woman do in the church?”

AS A TEACHER?

FINANCIALLY?

SPIRITUALLY?

SOCIALLY?

A Symposium

Are Women Needed As Teachers in the Church?

By Mrs. Houston R. Morehead

WOMAN—the weaker vessel, yes, but not so weak that she can do nothing to glorify her Creator, and help to strengthen His Church. It is God's purpose that all His creatures praise Him and not only praise Him but serve Him. Since we are especially considering the need for women as teachers in the Church, we will think upon that phase of service.



Of course, we are conscious of our place in teaching as conformable to the Bible order; for, certainly, we shall endeavor to follow its guiding light. We find many examples of honorable women in God's Word who performed notable services in teaching. Their names, possibly, would never have been known had it not been for the valuable contribution they

made in teaching others about the way of truth and life. Let us consider a few of them.

In Acts 18, we read of Priscilla, a lovely woman who had married a Jew. Circumstances arose making it necessary for them to bid farewell to friends and loved ones in Rome. They finally established a new home in the famous Grecian city of Corinth. Their new home be-

came a meeting place for Christians. They were privileged to have the noted Apostle Paul stay with them for quite an extended visit. Undoubtedly, they profited from the instructions received from this great teacher while associated with him in their home. After Paul's departure, we find Priscilla with her husband teaching and expounding the way of the Lord more perfectly to Apollos who, although mighty with the Scriptures and an eloquent and brilliant speaker, knew only of John's baptism. He needed further instructions, and Priscilla with her husband had the privilege of teaching him concerning the Baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Phebe is mentioned by Paul, in Romans 16:1, 2, as a "servant" of the Church in Cenchrea. Also, Paul acknowledged her as a "sister"—a member of God's family. She was chosen to be a "helper" in the Church, being sent to Rome on a special mission because she was qualified and capable. Her influence was good, her life exemplary.

Another woman referred to in God's word as a woman of leadership and prayer is Lydia. She conducted regular prayer services by the riverside and, no doubt, taught her congregation all she knew about God and continually prayed until God sent His servant, Paul, along with three others of the disciples, to teach them the full gospel. Her efforts blossomed into a strong flourishing church. Lydia played no small part in helping to establish Christianity in Europe.

YES, THERE ARE many places in the Church where women can do a notable service for God in teaching. Are there any prerequisites? Must one have a college or seminary degree? There are prerequisites, but they are not, necessarily, college degrees. First, one must know God and be filled with the Spirit. Oh, what a

teacher the Holy Ghost is, if only we are consecrated and apply ourselves by doing our part to search for the truth in God's Word! A person must also feel a sense of responsibility in her service of love. Whether teaching kindergarten, older children, teen-agers or the aged people of the Church, one must remember that they are all eternal souls, and teaching is a weighty responsibility. Much prayer should go into preparation. Many children's lives have been influenced by kind, godly teachers.

No one would underestimate the teaching of mothers, and among them are some of the most qualified teachers to be had. Many young ladies, however, have prepared themselves for teaching children in very interesting ways. They can be of inestimable value in a church. Also, they have more time for preparation than many who have heavy home responsibilities. I have often looked with appreciation upon their sacrificing the morning or evening services, as the case may be, with the adults where they could sing in the choir and feast upon the message from God's servant. Someone must needs take this task of teaching, and if you will look about, you will usually observe it to be a young woman.

In recent years, Daily Vacation Bible Schools have come to be generally accepted among us and are really being a blessing. When volunteers for teachers are requested you will find several mothers responding and, in addition, some of the young girls. Some of the women who do not have jobs outside the home can sacrifice a little time each day for a period and they, definitely, fill a need.

Women teachers can render an important service in the Church by heading women's classes. A God-fearing, praying teacher can lead her class in many ways—in revival efforts, in fund-raising endeavors, in home-visitations and in any number of worthwhile projects. In other words, women have many things in common; they understand each other; they think very much alike and can be influenced by another woman, if she has their confidence.

Too, I feel that much greater emphasis could be placed on spiritual things in our L.W.W.B. meetings. Perhaps you are thinking: "How can we stress spiritual things while we make pies, doughnuts and so forth?" Set aside at least one time a month, oftener if possible, for a period of devotion and study. Have some capable woman to teach from God's Word. Never start a day of work without asking for God's help and guidance. I'm sure most of you always do this.

If you are called upon to serve in the capacity of a teacher in your church, do not say "no" lightly without thinking, considering and praying. Someone must teach in our churches. If God has need of your services, be a willing worker in any capacity for which God has need of you. You will be happier serving.

The Word of God is definitely against women usurping authority over the men or taking part in the business sessions of the Church, and I am sure we, the women of the church, have no desire to do those things; but we are ready and willing to be servants, helpers, teachers, whatever we need to be for the advancement of God's cause. May each of us ever strive to be the kind of woman whose influence abides from generation to generation, and whose children rise up and call her blessed.

How Women Can Help Spiritually in the Church

By Mrs. G. R. Watson

GOD, IN HIS GREAT ECONOMY for the Church, provided a place for the women. We learn of the ministry of women in both the Old and New Testaments—"chief women not a few," good women, faithful, courageous and loyal women. There seems to be a special place for His handmaidens in the last days.



Spirituality, the Greatest Need of the Church

For the past several years, the women of the Church have worked hard to make money to help carry the financial burden of the Church. However, money definitely is not our greatest need now. It is time that we changed from being Martha to being Mary. Being cumbered and troubled about too many "things" will deaden spirituality. The late war and the present era of prosperity has greatly changed the American way of life—the very pattern of many lives has changed. Despite the revival spirit that is moving everywhere—seemingly, there is still a "falling away." The whole church world is in a state of confusion, frustration and wonderment. It is time, now, to seek God, study His Word and live close to Him. Many are going off the deep end; others are being deceived (2 Timothy 3:13); others are drawing back and, also, are missing the will of God. God wants a people He can prove Himself through as He did Elijah to the false prophets in his day. The Church is the only medium through which He can work. May we accept the challenge and volunteer our services for this crisis.

Women Can Help By:

Prayer—Prayer has always been the greatest weapon of the Christian. Someone said: "Prayer can do anything that God can do." Women make good prayer-warriors. God's Word teaches prayer—twice daily, thrice daily, before day, all night, without ceasing and always, fervent effectual prayer for all men and for every need.

Fasting—Jesus said when He went away His disciples would fast. Some victories are won only by fasting and prayer.

Teaching—There is no greater ministry than teaching God's Word. Our people need to know what "thus saith the Lord" now more than ever. Women render a most valuable service in this field. "You do err, not knowing the scriptures nor the power of God." Our youth need the Word. It is more important than their natural food. "Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart . . . and ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down and when thou riseth up," Deuteronomy 11:18, 19.

Works—Here is a real spiritual door for service. Women can form ladies' prayer groups and meet daily where

and when possible, have prayer services at night when others can attend; minister to the sick and needy by reading the Word and praying with them as well as by attending to their physical needs; witness from door to door, and give out literature and invite new folk to the church. Also, they can mail out good literature, minister the word to shut-ins and over the telephone; participate in P.T.A. and other civic and social groups—not to conform or to compromise but in order to “Let your light shine before men,” to make good representatives of Jesus. Dorcas was full of good works and alms-deeds. Strive to live an abundant life—live “enough”—“always abounding in the work of the Lord.”

Example—Who have been greater examples in the Church in the past than our godly, saintly mothers? “Ye are living epistles, known and read of all men.” Women can wield a good influence in the church services by their devotion, testimonies, prayers, attentiveness and reverence.

How to Help Financially

By Mrs. W. E. Johnson

WHILE THINKING ABOUT the ladies of our Church and the great work they are doing, I would like to express my thoughts along the line of how our ladies can serve our Church financially. We all recognize that finance is not by any means the most important aspect of the Church, but it can be the medium through which the most important things can be accomplished.



When my husband was pastoring, I recall how the ladies of the church would meet each Saturday evening to pray and report on our week's work and discuss plans for the coming week. It was always a pleasure to discuss the work; it is very inspiring, if you realize the blessing you can be to the church financially.

When my husband was pastoring, I recall how the ladies of the church would meet each Saturday evening to pray and report on our week's work and discuss plans for the coming week. It was always a pleasure to discuss the work; it is very inspiring, if you realize the blessing you can be to the church financially.

If the Ladies' Willing Workers' Band can by work relieve the financial burden of the church, more people will be attracted to the church. This, in time, will result in growth. If the ladies of the church demonstrate that they love the church sufficiently to work for it, observers will conclude that the church is valuable. If the finance of a church is taken care of, the pastor can devote a greater portion of his time to prayer and meditation. Again, the result will be salvation of souls.

One great way in which the ladies can help is to prepare and furnish the parsonage. I think most ladies delight very much in doing this. We read in 2 Kings 4:10 how God impressed one of the ladies of that ancient day to prepare a place (or parsonage) for the man of God. She was also concerned about the furnishings for this newly planned home. So many of our churches would never have had a parsonage if it had not been for our ladies.

The Mission endeavor also lies close to the hearts of our ladies. Many have been moved to support a mis-

sionary or build a church in the mission field by organizing mission clubs and setting a financial goal for themselves. There are many ways to raise money for missions if you have a vision and a mind to work.

Does your church need a new piano? Would your song services be more inspirational if you had new song books or an organ? Does your Sunday School need equipment for proper training of its pupils? If so, you can relieve a great need by raising the necessary funds.

Last, but not least, the Ladies' Willing Workers' Bands have often taken the lead in sponsoring a building program. I like the idea of the contest between the men and the ladies. Needless to say, nine times out of ten the ladies come out ahead because they know no end to work for the church.

Yes, there is so much of value that we ladies can do with funds which will come from our efforts. We must remember, however, that such work is no substitute for salvation, for prayer, or for consecration; yet, work will build our faith, augment our prayers, and demonstrate our consecration. It does not require a large number to start. In most churches there is a large amount of latent energy, as the gasoline in the tanks of our automobiles, waiting for the spark of initiative to set it in motion. You can furnish that spark. Organize and support fund-raising projects. Watch them grow and accomplish great things for God and His Church. Ladies, the funds we raise will build and furnish churches, help sustain the ministry, support missions and welfare work and, even more important, they will build mansions and lay up treasures in heaven, not only for ourselves but for others, also.

“Lord, If Thou Hadst Been Here”

By Mrs. James L. Slay

“Lord, if thou hadst been here”—“if thou hadst been here my brother had not died.” Although these words were spoken directly to Jesus by heartbroken sisters, they may well be applied to us today.

IF WE COULD KNOW how many souls who once knew the joy of full salvation but today are groping about without God or hope, the number would be appalling! There are many today who are not able to meet the supreme test in their experience because the Lord is not living in their hearts. When



our young people have to go into the world in search of fulfillment for their social desires, we see the spiritual man begin to weaken and soon they are unable to withstand the fiery darts of the enemy—the Lord is not there. The question then is asked—Why? How? Can a person who has once known the Lord ever deny or turn his back on Him? Is it because the Church has failed? God forbid!

Let us look closely at the situation. We are told in Acts 17:28, "For in him we live, and move, and have our being." The gospel of Christ is not negative, but it is a positive gospel! Our service to the Lord should be both one of doing and being. We can find in Jesus Christ all we need—bread for the hungry soul, living water for the thirsty spirit, and complete satisfaction for the social desires of every man, woman, boy and girl.

The duty of the Ladies' Willing Workers' Band, in many instances, seems to have been limited to raising money for the church; but, actually, it goes much farther than just the monetary realm. The women of the church are its mothers. It is their privilege and duty to take the lead in all the social activities of the church, whether they be for the young or the old.

If the church has an auxiliary room or social hall, one night a week could be designated as *social night*.

This should be a well-planned evening with games arranged that are suitable for any ages, and adequate chaperons should be present. Lemonade, sandwiches and candy could be sold to defray any expenses involved.

In the summer, picnics are quite the vogue and are loved by old and young alike. Outings for various groups of the church, such as the special singers, musicians, Sunday School officers, Y.P.E. leaders and so forth should be sponsored by the Willing Workers. The financial responsibility for the social life of the church would not mean an added burden to the Ladies' Willing Worker Band. It is just a phase of the Church that has been sadly neglected for years, and this has caused many of our young people to slip through our fingers.

Ladies, let us explore this neglected field—the social life of the church—and see the possibilities that await. Let us prove to our youth that in Him we can *live* and *move* and have our being.

Nerves Healed by Divine Power

CALLAHAN, Fla.—I have been sick with a nervous condition for about three years. Sometimes I could not eat enough to give me sufficient strength, and I did not sleep much at night. Many times, I would wake in the night jerking all over as if I had hold of an electric wire. The Devil would tell me that I was never going to be well again, but, praise the Lord, I am healed by God's power! The first night in January, I decided I would take the Lord's Word just as it is written and call for the elders of the Church. I did, and, praise the Lord, He healed me by His power. I am so thankful for His healing power and for His children.—Mrs. N. P. Daughtry.

Malignant Cancer Cured

MANATEE, Fla.—I praise the Lord for healing our twenty-year-old son, Bobby. In November, 1955, he had an operation because the doctors thought he had a ruptured appendix, but when they operated they found a tumorous cancer. On December 21, my wife took him to Duke Hospital in Durham, North Carolina, where he took mustard gas treatments. On December 24, my wife called me and said he was worse, so I caught the plane for Durham. In the meantime, everyone was praying for his healing. As I stood by his bed on Christmas Day at about three thirty o'clock, we prayed and he went to sleep. He awoke a few hours later and felt better. We left Duke Hospital, on December 28, for home. He continued to get stronger and is now back to work and feeling fine. For this, we truly praise the good Lord.—T. L. Witt.

Polio Healed After Prayer

ODENTON, Md.—One Tuesday morning, the first week in December,



1952, I woke up and started to get ready for school. When I put my weight on my feet I felt nothing unusual, except that my right leg felt as though it were numb. I started to walk, and then I realized something was wrong. Stepping on my right leg was what frightened me, for instead of walking, I fell. My aunt, in the next room, heard my calling. With her help, I got dressed, and a friend took me to the doctor. I could only walk with someone supporting me. After a very brief examination, the doctor sent me to the hospital—diagnosis: polio. I was gripped with a terrible fear of remaining crippled. That night, the people of the church prayed a special prayer. God entered my hospital room and touched my body. I knew God had healed me, but the doctors were not satisfied. They gave me a second spinal test two days later. In one week, I was back home thanking God for healing my body. I still have complete victory after four years, and I walked normally. God is a good God and will neither leave nor forsake His children if we will but trust Him.—Jewell Trivett.

Healed After Accident

ELOISE, Fla.—I am 73 years old and have been a member of the Church of God for 40 years. God has been my healer during the 40 years I have served Him. On January 19, we were in a great revival with Brother C. B. Donahue from Chattanooga, Tennessee. On this day, I went to the grocery store, and, as I started home, the door blew shut on me and knocked me completely out. Many thought I was dead. After Brother Donahue prayed for me, I was able to come home; that night, seven women and Brother Donahue prayed for me again. God miraculously healed me and I am

completely whole today. Praise His name!—Anna Brown. Attested by D. L. Franklin, Pastor.

Church Has Outstanding Healings

SOUTH PARKERSBURG, W. Va.—For some time, I have felt led to write of the wonderful things God has done and is doing for His people here at our church. He is still pouring out His blessings on those who attend the services. Sinners are praying through at the altar and the anointing power of God is healing the sick. The following are a few of the outstanding healings which have taken place:

Samuel May was born without the use of his spine. When he was nine months old the doctor said he would never be able to sit, stand or walk alone. Our pastor, Brother Cecil Travis, anointed a cloth which was placed under the child's body. A few hours later he pulled himself up and stood alone for the first time. He now has perfect use of his spine and is as active as any normal boy. In November, the doctor took Samuel out of school because of poor vision. Brother Travis anointed and prayed for him and God healed his eyes. He was able to return to school and resume his studies. Little Carol Arnott was healed of an affliction in the right eye which had effected the tear duct and caused the eye to water continually. The doctors had been unable to cure this condition. After prayer the eye stopped watering and became straightened and normal. This surely was a wonderful healing. I was healed of rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart, anemia, kidney disorder and other ailments. Mrs. Lucy Sams was healed of arthritis of the legs. Sight was also restored to her left eye, which was completely blind, and her hearing was returned to normal.—Carolyn May.

reports

Outstanding Missions Offering

NEALSVILLE, N. C.—The Church of God at Nealsville, North Carolina, which has 52 members, has just had a great missions rally. Brother A. V. Childers, State Evangelistic Director, brought a dynamic message on God's greatest missionary. God moved upon the hearts of the people and the results was \$1,005 in cash and pledges. We praise God for this great victory and for the fine people here at Nealsville who love God and are willing to sacrifice for His cause. Pray for us.—Wayne De Hart, Pastor.

Successful State Convention for Nebraska

Our State convention of 1955, held in Omaha with J. L. Lombard as host pastor, was a great blessing to all who attended. Brother Frank Bradley, our State Overseer, did a fine job of moderating this convention. From the very first service, there was a spirit of love and fellowship among the ministers and congregation. We were blessed by having our beloved General Overseer, Brother Zeno C. Tharp, with us, and we are still reaping the benefits and blessings of his sermons. Our evening speaker was our neighbor, Brother Doyle Stanfield, State Overseer of Kansas. Hearts were blessed each night and a spirit of consecration and rededication prevailed. Our convention closed on Saturday with a great youth day under the direction of our State Youth Director, Sister Edna Bell Davis. The altar was filled with young people seeking God. We all felt our need of doing more in behalf of missions after we heard the missions appeal of our foreign mission representative, Brother Johnny Owens, from Cleveland, Tennessee. We can all say with one voice, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."—Mrs. J. L. Lombard, State Reporter.

Greenwood District S. S. and Y.P.E. Convention

The Greenwood, South Carolina, District Sunday School and Y.P.E. convention convened on January 15, 1956, at the Ninety-Six Church of God. Brother Thomas Grassano, pastor of the Ware Shoals Church and District Youth Director, had a well-planned program. We were blessed with having Brother J. T. Shealy, our State Youth Director, and his family with us throughout the convention. On Saturday night, Brother W. D. Childers, the host pastor, gave a welcome address. Then, Brother Shealy presented and promoted the sales of different publications as outlined by our general officials—as maps, blackboards, youth helps and so forth.

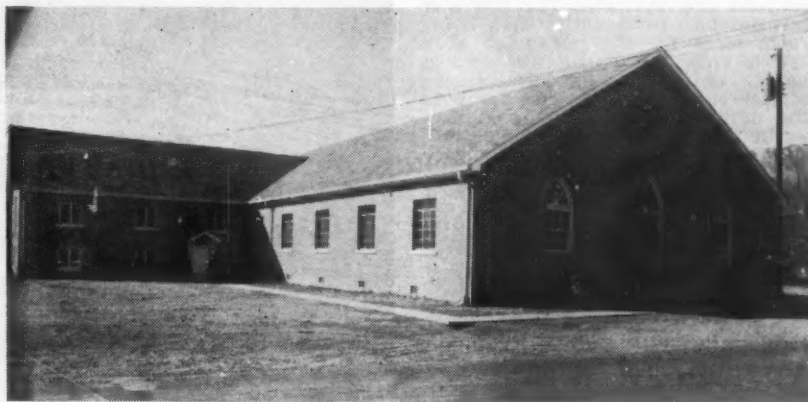
A sound film entitled "Missionary to Walker's Garage" was shown by Brother Shealy, and it was enjoyed by all

present. This film made us realize that we can be workers for God regardless of our position in life. It stirred the hearts of the people into greater ambition for God.

On Sunday afternoon, we met for another great service. Brother Shealy told us some of the details of our new state orphanage home. Although the orphanage offering sent in by the churches on the district exceeded that of last year, the congregation responded with an excellent floor offering, including a check for the amount of \$100 from the L.W.W.B. of

the Ninety-Six Church. The total offering for the district amounted to \$782.39. We praise the Lord for it. After receiving the offering, Brother Shealy preached a soul-stirring message that blessed our hearts. One young man rededicated his life to God when the invitation was given. We were favored with special singing and music by persons who attended from the different churches. The attendance was good, and the church was well-filled for each service. God's presence was felt throughout the convention and we shall be looking forward to another one next year, if Jesus tarries.—Ruth Starnes, Reporter.

NEW CHURCH ERECTED IN WHITWELL, TENNESSEE



On Sunday July 17, 1955, the doors of the new Church of God at Whitwell, Tennessee, were opened to welcome everyone for the Dedication Service.

For years we had talked and dreamed of a church such as we now have. The building is modern in every way. The auditorium is 48 by 83 feet inside and furnished with new factory-built pews and pulpit to match with a seating capacity of 550. The walls are lovely white plaster with beautiful fluorescent lighting, and the windows are of colored glass which add to the beauty of the auditorium. The floors are of hardwood finished to blend with the furniture. There is a beautiful wool plush rug down the aisles of the auditorium, and a runner, twelve feet wide, across the front of the altar. There are twelve class rooms, two rest rooms, a church office and a pastor's study. The building is valued \$70,000; but, with so many donations and so much free labor from outsiders as well as from our church members and good pastor, we were left with an indebtedness of only \$16,000.

The building program was under the

supervision of our highly respected and beloved pastor, W. T. Morefield, who did such a great job designing and drawing the plans and working day and night to get the job done that it took only about 10 months to complete the building.

The Ladies' Willing Workers' Band, under the guidance of the Willing Workers' president, Sister Morefield, played a big part in the building program. She is one that believes in putting your shoulder to the wheel. Speaking of the church as a whole, I do not feel that there are adequate words to express the love and appreciation we have for our fine pastor and his wife. They are two people sent by God to bless us with their fine leadership; both bring us messages under the anointing of the Holy Ghost.

I am sure that when God shall appear, Brother Morefield will be rewarded for the many hard hours of manual labor he has spent on our beautiful building here, as well as for the busy life he has devoted to the progress of our church.—Louise Russell, Reporter.

The Nebraska Prayer Conference

The Nebraska State Prayer Conference, moderated by Brother Frank E. Bradley, was well-attended by our own state ministers as well as by several visiting ministers among whom were Brother J. L. McCoy and his ministers from Iowa. We were also happy to have Brother H. D. Williams, General Secretary-Treasurer, from Cleveland, Tennessee, visit us during the prayer conference. A spirit of love and unity prevailed during the conference as we dedicated, anew, our lives to the Master's work. "For we are laborers together with God."—Mrs. J. L. Lombard, Reporter.

L.W.W.B. Does a Good Work

BLUEFIELD, W. Va.—The church here is happy to report that progress is being made in nearly every department of the church under the able leadership of our good pastor and his wife, Brother and Sister Paul Barker. The Ladies' Willing Workers' Band has been reorganized and is working regularly to make and sell as many as 375 fried pies a week to the factories, the railroad and so forth. The L.W.W.B. has purchased a beautiful new living room suite for the parsonage at a cost of \$250 plus other items—such as blonde end tables and coffee tables, scatter rugs, and draperies for both the dining room and living room.

The band, also, has contributed \$100 cash to a building fund that has been created, and paid for an option on two lots until they could be purchased. The band is very small in number but is working hard with much enthusiasm. God is richly blessing its efforts.

A Men's Fellowship Club has also been organized which works much in the same manner as the L.W.W.B., except that it meets in a different home each time. The prime objective of the club is to enlist other men for Christ and the Church of God. Recently, the club completed a project in which they bought chickens, dressed them and sold them to the supermarkets at a profit.

A visitation chairman has been appointed for a visitation committee which will visit 14 families a week, make reports on forms provided and receive new assignments each week. This program is unlimited, in that the members are actively performing personal work with proper records being kept on each visit. Approximately 2,000 persons will have been contacted in behalf of the Church of God within a year.

A supper is given for the workers each quarter and enthusiasm is running high. The old church has been completely repainted, Sunday School rooms included, and a gas range has been added to the kitchen to supply the needs of the L.W.W.B. The old property is being offered for sale by the Lilly Land Co., and two very nice lots have been purchased in a good residential section on the bus line. A building fund of nearly \$500 has been established, and we plan to begin construction as soon as the weather permits. The new church plans call for a lovely building which will be within the economic reach of our member-

ship constituency. A wonderful spirit prevails among the people, and God is certainly pouring out His mighty power upon the church in each service. We desire the prayers of all God's people that the work will continue to grow.—Mrs. Madge Richardson, Clerk.

Y.P.E. Sponsors Church in Haiti
SOMERSET, Ky.—The young people of Somerset, Kentucky, have raised

\$300 in missions money to build a church on the island of Haiti. The money has already been sent to the island. Mrs. Carl Cox is the president of the Y.P.E. and Bob Thomeson is the secretary-treasurer. We are proud of the youth in Somerset for they are doing a good work. In the three months before Christmas, they sold hamburgers and sandwiches in order to raise this money.—Carl Cox, Pastor.

CENTRAL FLORIDA DISTRICT GIVES GIFTS TO CHILDREN'S HOME



Pictured above is the truck from our Home for Children in Sevierville as it is prepared to leave Zellwood, Florida, after loading with fruit from the various packing houses which donated fruit for this Central Florida District project again this year. First row, left to right: Brother Walter Boring, Brother J. L. Dorman, Brother J. W. (Fletcher) Phillips, Brother E. L. Newton, the district pastor, and Peggy Humphrey. On top, left to right: Lavoy Newton and Joe Morris.

The Central Florida District of the Church of God, now in its second year of organization, again had the joyful privilege of delivering a large Christmas gift of assorted fruit to the boys and girls of our Sevierville Home for Children. The careful preparation and efficient planning of this project was under the able direction of our own district pastor, Brother E. L. Newton of Zellwood, who was assisted by Brother Vernon E. Crosby of Apopka, youth director of the district. The project was made even more successful by the gracious contributions of the following pastors who were able to obtain their donations through the local packing houses: T. Z. Bennett of Mt. Dora,

Malory Smith of Umatilla; Mrs. Frances L. Swalls of Tavares, Fletcher Phillips of Winter Garden; J. D. Channell of Plymouth, R. F. Mickler of Ferndale, and B. D. Creech of Ocoee. Brother Newton wishes to express his sincere thanks for the splendid work of all those who invested their time and efforts in helping to make this worthy project such a success. We arranged to have a truck from the Home for Children pick up the many boxes and bags of oranges and grapefruits. The truck was driven by Walter Boring and his junior assistant from the Home, Joe Morris. All of us certainly appreciate the fine work being done by the directors of the Home—Brother and Sister R. R. Walker—not only for their consistent Christian testimony but also for the innumerable ways in which the Lord is using them to bless the lives of the children, whom they love so much, as well as the lives of other young people. Thank you, Brother and Sister Walker, for giving Central Florida District an opportunity to help in making this Christmas a happy one for your boys and girls.—Peggy Humphrey.



I am very happy to report what our L.W.W.B. is doing at Sparta, Tennessee. We surely have a wonderful band here—including men and ladies. This picture is made in our new church and most of our ladies are present. Mrs. Haskell Cope is presenting a check for \$1,638.61 to our pastor and his wife, Brother and Sister J. H. Kear, as a full payment for our new pews. This money has been raised by our L.W.W.B. This has been our goal since Brother and Sister Kear came here. It was through their faithful and untiring efforts that we were enabled to raise this amount. We think we have some of the most beautiful pews any church could have. Also, we have paid the indebtedness on our piano, which was \$65.

Quilting was one of the ways by which we raised this amount. We quilted 20 quilts this winter with one bringing a total of \$100.02. Also, we served dinners; we cleared \$134.05 on our first one. We had three miscellaneous auction sales for which all items were donated. We, also, sold other different items. The Lord really is blessing us here at Sparta and we are thankful. We hope to do much more this year than we did last year. Please pray for us, and our prayers are for all.—Mrs. Haskell Cope, Reporter.

ESTIMATE OF WOMAN



RIVERSIDE, Ga.—We have been blessed in our home missions department during the last year. In the picture is our faithful president of the home mission department with her car loaded with clothes to distribute to underprivileged children. We provide them with clothes and our Sunday School bus brings them to church on Sunday morning. Pray for us and these children who come from broken homes.—Mrs. C. J. Relford, co-worker.

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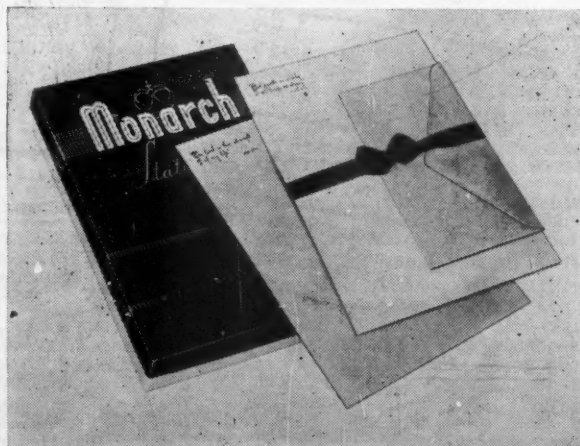
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REISNOR

On February 1, death entered the home of Brother and Sister Reisor of Shelburn, Indiana, and took away Brother Reisor. He was a faithful attendant and supporter of the church until he became disabled and unable to attend. He was 81 years of age at his death. He leaves to mourn his passing his wife, Lena; three sons, two daughters, twelve grandchildren; two great grandchildren and two step brothers. He also leaves a host of relatives and friends who will greatly miss him. His funeral was conducted by his pastor, William Simpson, and Brother Gene Nash.—William Simpson, Pastor.

NOLEN

Robert McCoy Nolen died in Austin, Texas, December 27, 1955. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Gladys Nolen; four daughters, Mrs. Bernamand Hall of Odessa, Texas; Mrs. Oleta Fields of Lubbock, Texas; Mrs. Juanita Perez of Costa Rica; and Miss Edith Fay Nolen of Austin, Texas and her four sons, Paul Nolen and Howard F. Nolen, of Aransas Pass, Texas; Lester F. Nolen and Robert McCoy Nolen, Jr. of Austin, Texas; three sisters, Mrs. Bunch Lyles of Littlefield, Texas; Mrs. Ethel Redwine and Mrs. Eva Hix of Brownfield, Texas. Funeral services were in the Church of God, 1000 East 2nd Street, Austin, Texas, and were conducted by Brother A. W. Hicks who was assisted by Brother H. E. Weatherby and Brother Ralph Brewer of San Antonio, Texas. Burial was in Austin Memorial Cemetery.

MARTIN

Ruben H. Martin was born December 2, 1901, in Statesboro, Georgia, and passed away January 9, 1956, in Hereford, Texas. He is survived by his wife, Clara Martin; seven daughters, Grace, Eunice Williams, Ruth Loflin, Marye, Joanna, Martha and Joy Martin; two sons-in-law, Bill Williams and Lee Loflin. Brother Martin, an ordained minister, had been an active minister in the Church of God for thirty-four years. He served as state overseer of Nebraska and did pastoral work in Georgia, New Mexico, Nebraska, Montana, and Texas. The departure of Brother Martin is a great loss not only to his family but to the Church and his many friends. Brother L. A. Baker, Brother W. L. Shires and his pastor, Brother Eugene Powers conducted his funeral.

MILLER

W. M. Miller, a faithful and loyal member of the Childersburg, Alabama, Church of God, departed this life December 5, 1955. Brother Miller was faithful to the end. He seemed to realize that he was going, so he planned his funeral several days before he passed away. The night be-

fore he died seemed to be the happiest time of his life. He called his children to his bedside and talked to them about the Lord. For three hours or more that night he shouted and praised God. The following morning I stood by his bed and heard him speak in other tongues and praise the Lord just before slipping away to be with Jesus. He had had an afflicted body for many years; however, we expect to see him in his glorified body when we meet again. The funeral was conducted by the writer, who was assisted by W. C. Gore, the former pastor, and Emmitt Jones, a minister with the Assemblies of God.—D. L. Barrett, Pastor.

ERWIN

Lon F. Erwin of Adairsville, Georgia, passed on to his reward, on January 2, at the age of 78. He had been a member of the Erwin Hill Church of God for 40 years. He gave the ground on which the church named after him is built. He will be greatly missed by his host of friends and loved ones and, especially, by his neighbors. In his late years, being unable to work, it seemed that his greatest desire was to be with the Lord. The Lord answered prayer for him in so many ways before He called him home. The funeral was conducted by Brother Gordon Mize who was assisted by Brother C. L. Hall, the pastor. The church's prayer is for his family and friends. May we all follow on to know more about his big God of whom he so often talked.—Everett McDearis, Clerk.

QUINTON

Mrs. Bessie Cooper Quinton died December 31, 1955, after being ill for several months. She was the wife of M. G. Quinton, a retired minister of the Church of God at Chesnee, South Carolina. She was a faithful worker for the Church of God there and had been a member of the church for 20 years.—Drell Scruggs.

BYCE

Mrs. Mary Ruth (Harris) Byce was born November 1, 1936, and passed away August 15, 1955. She is survived by her husband, Carlos Byce; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Burgess Harris; three sisters and three brothers. She was a member of the Church of God at Webbs Chapel, Tennessee. She served as group captain in the Y.P.E. and prayed for the sick. She was a flower in our midst, and even though her kind words and singing are silenced, her memory lingers on in the hearts of her many friends and loved ones. We look forward to the resurrection morning when all of God's children shall meet again.—J. W. Thurman, Pastor.

COX

On January 29, 1951, there was born into our family a darling baby girl whom we named Martha Ann. She was a precious baby, and we thought her to be one of the fairest ever to be born into this world. We enjoyed her sweetness for 4 years, 4 months and 26 days. On June 25, 1955, God claimed our darling for the garden of heaven. She left this world of sin, sorrow, and trouble to enter the paradise of God. God has been a friend, indeed, to us in our long hours of loneliness, but we miss our baby. We are longing for the day when we shall meet again around the great white throne of God.—The Cecil Cox Family.

DENNIS

On Friday, January 6, after a short illness, Evie Elizabeth Dennis, wife of Reverend Horace Dennis of Mt Creek, Alabama, went to be with Jesus. She was dearly loved by all who knew her and will be greatly missed, but we do have the great hope of being with her again. The funeral was held at Jackson Street Church of God with Brother Carl Green officiating. Interment was in the Marbury Church of God Cemetery. She is survived by her husband, Brother H. W. Dennis; her daughter, Mrs. Lottie Bond, of Montgomery, Alabama; two sons, Albert and Horace, Jr. of Montgomery; two sisters, Mrs. Alma Talley and Mrs. Alice Killenbeck of Montgomery; and her mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Boatfield.

HITCHCOCK

Mrs. Elise Belvin Hitchcock, 36, well-known church worker in Columbus, Georgia died at the St. Francis Hospital June 20, 1955 following an illness of three months.

Mrs. Hitchcock was born in Muscogee County, December 13, 1918, the daughter of the late Robert Benjamin and Ophelia Odom Belvin. She had lived in Columbus all her life. Mrs. Hitchcock was a member of the 27th Street Church of God in Columbus. She was a youth leader, a member of the church trio, secretary-treasurer of Sunday School and chairman of the Youth Congress Committee. She had been an active member and leader of the church for 19 years. Surviving are her husband, Raymond Hitchcock; a son, Donnie Ray Hitchcock, of Columbus; three brothers, Roy Wallace Belvin; Robert Lewis Belvin and B. Fred Belvin, all of Columbus; a niece, Jo Ann Belvin; and a nephew, Robert Lewis Belvin, Jr., of Columbus. Her funeral was held at the 27th Street Church of God with the pastor Brother Hoyt Odom, assisted by Brother Edgar Bethany, in charge. Burial was in Parkhill Cemetery.—The Ledger-Enquirer, Columbus.

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